# STORIES ABOUT ANIMALS.

Interesting Creatures of the Earth. Air, and Water.

FOR HUNTERS AND ANGLERS.

The Contemplative Sand-hill Crane and the Ominous Crow.

A Parther Collection of Facts About these erenting Birds-Capital Punishment After Trial Before a Feathered Jury and After Listening to Tongue-tied Eloentnes-The Sand-hill Crane Dance Exsisined-It Occurs when his Hend Light. ly Turns to Thoughts of Love-Seen from the Human Point of View, His Astles Appear a Trifle Ridiculous.

"It is an actual fact," said an amateur but thoroughly observant and accomplished naturalist, "that the statements made in a recent saue of THE SUN by Col. Sam Knight of St. Louis, and an intelligent German of that part the West, in regard to sand-hill cranes indulging themselves at odd times in the pleasires of the mazy cotillon, and their holding court and trying and convicting some moral felinquent among them, and executing the death sentence upon him, have been referred o in my presence as pleasant freaks of the Western imagination. To one who has made a study of the ways and means of furred, feathered, finned, and scaled denizens of the forest, he air, the stream, the lake, the swamp, as have for years, such incredulity is painful. I have myself several times enjoyed the scene presented by a collection of dancing cranes, as it is a performance that has regular times for securring, but the habit of holding court being one that is exercised only as circumstances may require, and one consequently for which no date can be fixed. I have never had the pleasure of being a witness to that extraordinary spectacle. But having seen what I have een more than once among another branch of the bird family, theregen be no doubt in my mind whatever of the existence of the court habit in the sand-hill crane.

The crow, for instance, is popularly regarded as a common and irrectalmable thief, a conscienceless despoiler, a feathered freebooter, and outlaw. Perhaps he is all these. He may have his own ideas as to how the rights and property of others should be regarded and distributed by him, but within the ranks of his own kind there has got to be honor and fair play and fair dealing, or the transgressor must suffer. I have seen enough of the methods of a crow government to satis y me that it has code of procedure rigid and impartial, but

with punishment swift and severe.

"The be-t place that I know of for studying the crow and his curious and systematic ways is at Crow Neck, Maine. That isn't far from Trescott, but as long as any one in that part of Maine can remember, and there isn't a place on the continent where memory is longer or more remarkable than it is there, it has been literally a crow settlement, probably endeared to the crow heart by some ancient tradition. and undoubtedly a spot resorted to at times by crows from all parts of the country. To my mind it is a regular seat of justice, for my observation was, and the daily testimony of the natives is, that the vast flocks of crows that congregate there both winter and summer always have on their hands the trial of some culprit or culprits. My attention was attracted to this fact on the first day I visited Crow Neck. early in the spring, a few years ago. A piece of woods, maybe a mile long and half a mile wide, was filled with crows, and their and cries and shouts were absolutely deafening as I walked quietly along through the woods. The birds were resting in the tall pine trees. As I waiked along I noticed one big crow, a viciouslooking bird, acting in a suspicious manner. and I got behind a tree and watched him. He was stealing in the most cautious manner through the branches of a tall pine toward a nest that had been built well toward the top. With a strong field glass I watched the crow's novements. Finally he reached the nest, and, lighting on a limb near it, began to peck away at the eggs that were evidently in it, and eat them ravenously. As he was thus robbing the nest, suddenly three other crows pounced down on the robber crow from a neighboring tree, where they had evidently been hiding. and seized the crow thus detected in his missions. The neculiar cries of the three enters and seized the crow thus detected in his missions. The peculiar cries of the three captors quickly brought a swarm of cawing, jabbering crows from all parts of the woods, and soon the tree where the capture had been made and all the surrounding trees were black with indignant and noisy members of the great family of birds. After a minute or two of this excited interchange of outdon on the subject, there was an interim of comparative quiet, only two or three big crows having anything to say. Then the culprit crow, surrounded by a guard of his fellows, and accompanied by the entire crow contingent, cawing inordinately, was forced to fly along with the rest in the direction of a big field, on which the woods bordered. Hotly interested in this curious proceeding. I followed the crows as fast as my less would carry me, determined to be a witness to the climax of the crime and the arrest of the criminal.

"When I reneved the adays of the field the of the criminal.
When I reached the edge of the field the air was still black with around

less would carry me, determined to be a withese to the climax of the crime and the arrest of the criminal.

"When I reached the edge of the field the air was still back with crows, which, with an appalling whirring, shricking, and cawing, were shilly descending to the centre of the field, where they were quickly massed in a glistening multitude. They formed an immense circle, within which was left a large open space, into which strode a dozen dignified-looking members of the great gathering. They stood in a little group by themselves, and before them was arraigned another crow, whose drooping feathers and head hanging down plainly indicated that he was the egg robber who had been detected in despositing a fellow crow's nest and arrested in the art. Before any further proceedings were had two other loudily cawing but small fleeks of crows came from the woods, and alighting in the open space in the circle, delivered un two more guilty-looking grows who had evidently been taken red-handed, or, more properly speaking, beak-stained, in crime. These two were ranged at the side of the first culprit. Their arrived at the side of the first culprit. Their arrived at the side of the first culprit. Their arrived at the side of the first culprit. Their arrived at the side of the current of the response of the current of the current of the particular than neither of the prisoners uttered a sound amid all the tumult of voices surrounding them. They didn't seem to have the courage to protest or petition. By and by quiet was once more restored, and then a crow having the appearance of much wisdom and exporience stepped into the opening and jawel away vociferously for hair a minute or more, gesticular appearance of much wisdom and exporience stepped into the opening and particular then appearance of the chorus of caws that remarks seemed to meet with the approbation of the group of the promote of prisingly short time had stretched them dead on the ground.

The execution was encouraged by deafening cries from the great body of crows, which had risen from the ground and was circling and darting frantically about above the executioner and their adjudged victims. Unlike the sand-hill crane execution, the bodies of these dead culprits were not left lying as they were killed, but after the legal executioners had done their work and retired, the vengeful lay numbers of the court swoned down upon their bodies, striking at them with beaks and claws and there was not a vestige left of the criminals whom outraged crow justice had so speedly and terribly punished. The vengeance of the community satisfied the crows returned to the woods, discussing the exciting affair as they went; and were soon once more engaged in their regular vocations.

in their regular vocations.

"Speaking of the santhill crane's odd cottl-lion party, Col. Knight did not have the proper

understanding of its significance. He imagined

understanding of its significance. He imagined it to be simply a merry dancing party, and the solitary crane standing awart from the rest the leader of the party, who was acting as a sentry to give the revelers warning of danger. The fact of the matter is, the solitary crane was a female and the dancers were males, and the antics they were cutting up before her were simply the sandhill crane's way of wooling the favor of his fair. If Col. Knight had waited until the end of that dance he would have been rewarded with the sight of some desperate and exciting pitched battles between rival cranes that would have delighted his sporting blood. Ordinarily, there isn't a more solemn or duralised bird living than the sandhill crane, or one that more loves repower that wooling time he loses his dignity, and makes himself about as ridiculous by his fantastic actions as any living creature could well do. He shandons repose, and becomes a regular devil-hit the exercise of his physical powers. Apparently, the gotesque notions of the male sandhill crane at this season are to show his grace and endurance before the female he wooes, in competition with other wooers, and that she solects from he competitors the one that strikes her as best illing her idea of what a proper mate's accomplishments should be. The sandhill crane is not the only bird that wooes grotesquely and even pugnaciously. The wild tarkey, the bustard, the humming bird, the pinnated grouse, the woodbecker, the blue jay, the little snice known as the ruff, the cock of the rock, the hight hawk, the quall, and many others do their courting after similarly peculiar methods.

"When a party of rival sandhill cranes meet to exhibit their attractions to the female they desire for a mate, they first ruffle up their feathers, spread out their wings, and contort their long and flexible necks into the most intricate and difficult of shapes and positions. Then, with light and dandiffed tread and infected gait, they pass in review before the female, who stands apart, a solemn

refreshed to again join in the fantastic proceedings.

"Sometimes these exercises will continue for hours, varied by frequent fights between rivals, which are so desperate and savage that it is no uncommon thing for one or the other of the contestants to be killed in the combat. Sometimes the female, after putting the wooers to a long and severe test of their powers, will deliberately rise and fly away, but usually the makes a choice from the contestants. That choice is always followed by a fight, one or more of the disappointed wooers being sure to pitch into the lavorite. But then he will have the aid of the female, who will fight for him as desperately as any of the males can fight. If the pair find themselves too hard pressed by the others they will beat a retreat and fly away together, sometimes followed by the others, who continue the light in midair."

## THE MONKEY AND THE MESSENGER BOY The Accomplished Pet of a Williamsburgh

About six months ago Mr. Michael J. Flaherty of the Eckford Club, Williamsburgh, presented to Manly & Kennedy, the proprietors of a saloon at 440 Wythe avenue, Williamsburgh, a young monkey. Mr. Manly soon taught the pet to throw dice for the drinks and several other accomplishments. The animal became a great pet in the saloon, and was often invited from his perch on the ice chest to come down to the bar and have something. Last Friday

to the bar and have something. Last Friday there was a ring from Manly & Kennedy's saloon for a messenger boy at the starion of the Eastern district. The call was answered, but the proprietors said that they had not summoned a boy.

A little later in the afternoon there was another call from the saloon, and then the police and the Fire Department were called through the district messenger service. The police and the Fire Department did not respond, but a man was sent to investigate the trouble. The monkey was perched quietly on the ice box when the agent of the District Messenger office arrived. Messers, Manly and Kennedy again denied having sent any call. The monkey was watched, and in a few minutes he swung himself over the ice box and rung the call again.

he swung himself over the ice box and rung the call again.

On Saturday the call box was placed over the bar out of range of the monkey. He retails ared on Sunday morning by breaking the wire running to the call box. Manly & Kennedy are very fond of their ret, and declare that they will sooner give up their district messenger service than their mascot.

# THE MAN FROM THE FOOTHILLS.

He Returns From Bermuda Disappointed, But With Some Hope for the Future.

"I'm back from Bermudy ag'in," said the man from the foothills. "You must mind my telling you, a month or so ago, that I was bound for Bermudy, don't you? Course, you must. I was just in from the loothills of the Sierras, you know, and told you I was homesick for Bermudy. Why? You mind why. don't you? I ain't afraid to bet you do! Scorpions was why. I had been used to scorpions, you know, and they didn't have any out there among the foothills. Had tarantulies. Had tarantulies till you couldn't see, And rattlesnakes. You mind I told you 'boat the tarantulies and the rattlesnakes. Certainly you do. But they wasn't enough to drive angwee away, even with Injins to help 'em. and I got to pinin' for somethin'. Pined and pined, and couldn't count for it. You must mind how I told you that I pined and pined. It's funny if you don't. Then it busted out on me all of a sudden that what ailed me was scorpions. Sure. Nothing else in the world but scorpions, and that I'd been gulpin' bitters for dyspepsy by the gallon, and rattlin' pills into me for my liver, seven at a rattle, and three rattles a day! And all that alled me was scorpions! Homesick fer 'em. So I turned my heels and struck for Bermudy, where I used to live, and where there was scorpions as well as tarantulies to cheer a fellow up. Well, I've been to Bermudy.

"But I'm back ag'in. Disappointed. You've often been disappointed, hain't you? Course rou have. A man that says he hain't been disappointed it's safe to call a liar. Providin' he hain't too big. Some men may be liars and not know it, and vit it wouldn't be sais for you to break the news to 'em. Don't you know it wouldn't? Hope so. If you don't know it, things may go hard with you some time, unless you're pretty handy on the scrap yoursel. You ve been disappointed, of course. But you hain't never been disappointed in scorpions. Few people has. I'm obe of 'em. I went to Bermudy with anticipations rosier than a song-and-dance girl's cheess. I came back from Bermudy with the resp ail bleached out of 'em. I'm a scorpion-disappointed man. If you had pined for 'em like! pined you'd know what that means. But you don't know, do you? Bet the drinks you don't!

"I was rosy. I'm tellin' you, when I sighted Bermudy ag'n! Couldn't hardly wait to git ashore. I could shout my eyes and see 'em erawiin' out o' my shoes when I woke up in the mornin's, and sportin' over my stockin's, and coppin' in and out o' my pants legs as they laid on the floor. I was cheerin up aiready. But what did I find when I landed on Bermudy? You can't guess. Bet you anything you can't. Why, they didn't let scorpions come out and hustle around and cheer folks any more! People that couldn't appreciate on had got to oain' round! Bermudy, and they objected to scorpions! So folks had took to discoursgin'em. My, they'd even felt to killin'em. Actually killin'scorpions! After all my pinin'and the peogle's and the well as the heart and the position and serratchin' and the peogle's and the well had the posit lon, and rattlin' pills into me for my liver, seven at a rattle, and three rattles a day! And all

It is fifty chinper and sassy scorpions, right from Hermudy. Them holes is fer 'em to breathe through. Each one has a section all to himself. If he hadn't, there is so much chieffulness stowed away in each one of em that they couldn't hold themselves, and they'd chew one another up. Shall I raise the kiver and let ye have a look at 'em? No? Don't like 'em, hey? Some folks don't. I'll bet you'd even kil a scorpion, now, if you'd meet one Darned if I kin see what some folks is male off. 'But I'm takin' this little box full o' hore, with me back to the foothills. I'm goin' to turn it loose out there. I don't know whether it'll take to the adobe grounds or not. Can't tell. But if you should drop out that way in the course of a couple years or so, hunt me up. If you find me wearin' a wide-brimmed white hat, with hangles on it, two pistols and a kniffe in my belt, and clangin' around with six-inch approach, and is flourishin' like a green bay hose. Consider that this little box o' hope has took root in the foothills and aprouted, and is flourishin' like a green bay hose. Consider that any one has been knocked so fur from the foothills and aprouted, and is flourishin' like a green bay hose. Consider that any one has been knocked so fur from the foothills tell never hear Gabriel blow. But if you run ag'in me settin on a rock, wearin' a yaller straw hat with no rim to it, and sportin' no gun, and no boots to fasten a spur to, and amokin' sage brush leaves in a corneob pire, consider that the soil of the adobe-frame-i foothills wasn't rich enough for that little hope o' mine to git a hoit in. You kin consider that I'm a-pinin' a hopeless pine, even while 'he tar-antulles and the ratters and the Injins it doin' their best to make things look cheerin'."

## WHAT FISHERMEN ARE DOING.

Whipping Valuly For Salmon in the Hudson-A Great Catch of Bluefish,

At the approach of midsummer the true salt water fishermen are easily distinguished from the amateurs. It is midway between the spring and fall fishing seasons. In spring or fall almost any one can go out in a boat or fish from a pier on the water front, and catch that most highly prized fish, the striped bass, But when there is a torrid sun overhead, when its reflection from the waves burns the skin of the angler to the hue of a boiled lobster, and when the fickle weakfish, and the inconstant bluefish are the chief prey to be sought, amateu fishermen betake themselves to boating or to the lawn tennis courts.

Weakfish have bitten gingerly bereabouts for the past week or two. Bluefish have been more pleniful, however, especially all along the Great South bay. Off Fire Island there has been a big run of bluefish for two days past. They weigh from two to three pounds each. At Point Lookout, not far from the Long Beach Hotel, fishermen have had good luck casting from shore for bluefish and kingfish.

Outside of Sandy Hook, on the Fourth. a chooner's crew caught 3,500 bluefish with hook and line, and brought them to Fulton Market, knocking the bottom out of prices. A lot of red snappers were on Fish Commissioner Blackford's stand yesterday. They were caught on the South Carolina coast, and are rare at this season. Kennebec salmon is sellat 40 cents a pound in this city. It is a long time since it brought so high a price here in July. Ictnyophagi in New York may have to wait a good while before they will see salmon as cheap as porgies through the multiplying of salmon in the North River. The New York

as cheap as pergies through the multiplying of salmon in the North River. The New York State Fish Commissioners, however, are cherishing the hope that salmon will soon be caught there with rod and line.

Several attenuous were made to catch salmon with the fly in the upper Hudson River the past week. Since Gov. Hill signed a bill appropriating a liberal sum of money to build fishways at Northumberland and Mechanicsville, above Troy, by means of which salmon may ascend to their syawning beds, many persons interested in fish culture have visited Mechanicville, among them State Fish Commissioner Burden of Troy, W. E. Hagan of Troy, and A. C. Johnson of Mechanicville, Commissioner Burden is now engaged in selecting the site for a fishway. He wrote to Commissioner E. G. Bilackford recently that salmon are continually trying to leap up the dam, but that they fall on the apron of the dam and drop back to try the feat again and again until they are exhausted. Mr. W. E. Hagan is a fisherman, and having provided himself with some costly salmon files he sangled for two days, but without success, except to have his expensive line chewed up by pike. Mr. Hagan tried all the pools and holes within two miles of the town, but on account of submerged rocks could not get within 200 leet of the spot where he saw the salmon jumping up on the dam. He believes that if he could get where they are jumping he could get them to take the fly, and expects that when the waters which are very high at the falls subside a little the salmon will run back from the dam and that he will succeed in taking some. There are ten times as many salmon at the dam and that he will succeed in taking some. There are ten times as many salmon at the dam and that he will succeed in taking some. There are ten times as many salmon at the dam and that he will succeed in taking some. There are ten times as many salmon at the dam and that he will succeed in taking some. There are ten times as many salmon at the dam and that he will succeed in taking some.

from five pounds to twenty pounds each.

Mr. A. C. John-on also spent a day or two of
this week in ca-ting the fly for salmon, but he
did not get a rise. Mr. Johnson observed that
in those places where salmon run he could not
discover either hass or pike. This is interesting to fish culturists who are studying the
habits of the salmon.

The result of the season's work by the
United States Fish Commission in distributing fry in the Hudson River, just published, is
as follows:

Whitefish fry on Lake Ontario ... Frostish in Adirondack streams. Salmon trout fry 1,541,000

Brook trout fry 1,542,000

German trout fry (brown trout) 521,000

California front

California trout fry
Shad fry in the Hudson River
California trout fry
Shad fry in the Hudson River
The July meeting of the State Fish Commissioners will take place on Tuesday atternoon next at Bisbee's, on Woodhull Lake, in the heart of that part of the Adirontacks which was formerly called John Brown's tract, from John Brown, the Abolitionist who owned a part of the southern range of the Adir-ndacks, and lived there. Commissioner Richard W. Sherman of Utica is fi-hing at Bisbee's. Commissioners Blacklord and Burden, with Secretary E. P. Doyle, are to meet Commissioner W. H. Bowman of Rochester at Utica on Monday and go to Bishee's. After the session on Tuesday the Commissioners will inspect the hat-heries and will then test the results of distributing trout fry by a certain apparatus which consists of a rod and line. They are assured of a warm reception—by black files—and it is certain that they will get a good many bites.

Pennsylvania brook trout fishermen who have whipped the streams in the neighborhood of Johnstown, along the Big Run in the Juniata valley, and on Loyal Sock creek, find the noted trout streams twisted out of their courses by the great flood so that the old fishing haunts and landmarks are wiped out. One result observed is that the small trout have entirely disappeared, while those eight inches in length and upward survive and bite pretty freely. There are plenty of black bass. The Pennsylvania Fish Commissioners have already taken steps toward replecishing with trout fry the streams in the devastated district.

# DAVE VAN WINKLE TALKS BEAR. Bruin's Leap from Sunset Rock-Bears Op

Britis's Lesp from Sunset Rocks. Bears Opposes the From Hoselogs.

Poss the Alberty Argue.

HOTHE KARTHESKILL, July 2.—There is an all mountain driver here named Dave Van all mountain driver here named Dave Van as an arrow. He know, every inch of the mountains. He has lived in the words so long more than 00. For sixty countains, He has lived in the words so long more than 00. For sixty countains, He has lived in the words so long as an arrow of the does not look more than 00. For sixty countains, He has lived in the words as one of the word of the hotelook of the word in the word of the hotelook is lakes that the word of the hotelook in the set of whether the word in the word of the hotelook is lakes that the word of the hotelook in the word of the hotelook in the word of the hotelook is lakes that the word of the hotelook in the

bears that ever climbed the Kaaterskilla. Yet that old brute had sat for his picter for four weeks! Date's egotism for you! When we told the sainter all about the terrible deeds of the vicious Old Raibh, the p-inter with a rigamarde name skipped from these parts. You couldn't have got him to face Old Raiph again for a million dollars.

"Did you know the bears once tried to break up a railroad here?" Dave suddenly asked.

"No, and how?" I asked.

"No and

## A GOOD YEAR FOR SNAKES,

And Also a Fairly Good Place for Them According to a Trustworthy Citisen.

According to a Trustworthy Citizen,

From the Punzulaumy Strit.

"I went out to the mountains to fish for trout last week," said a well-known and thoroughly reliable citizen of this place yesterday, "and the rain drove me to an old shanty, which I found to be inhabited by a solitary old man. After talking a little about the continued wet weather, the conve sation turned to snakes.

"Yes," said the old bermit. "rutt esnakes is mighty thick this year. I guess the rain has s-aked them all out. If you wouldn't mind walkin' up there on the side of the mountain where you see that big pile of rocks. I kin show you more snakes in you seen fer some time." The rocky promontory referred to was perhaps half a mile distant, and i willingly consented to accompany him. When we got within, perhaps, 300 teet of the place is topped, and the old man said: "Do you notice that gray rock there, shaced like a haverack." I admitted that I did. Welli, he continued. 'that is no rock—that is a pile o' rattlesnakes. Come an 'l'il show you.'

"We approached 200 feet nearer, and there, sure enough, I could see that what the old man said was true—a pyramid-shaped pile of rocks, fully as large as an ordinary sized haystack, was so literally co-ered with snakes as to appear like a seething mass of squirming reptiles. It was horrible beyond expression. 'Now watch,' said the old man, and he picked up a large stone and hurled it right into the midst of the rile. Immediately the heretofore sluggish mass became a hideous hell of activity. They coiled, hissed, and struck viciously, sinking their polsonous fangs into each other's flesh, and kent up a rattling that was almost deafening. The old man hurled stone after stone among them, and they continued to grow more furious until it seemed that every serpent was in a dearn struggle with another. The stone hards in a dearn struggle with another. The stone hards in a dearn struggle with another. The stone hardsing from the polson which they emitted became so sickening that I feared we would be overcome From the Punzautaioney Spirit. overcome by it, and we hastened away. A more frightful awful spectacle than this battle of the rattlesnakes could not possibly be imagined. The old man said that this was a regular nesting ground for the rattler-, and that of the thousands engaged in the deadly combat several hundred at least would die."

## TWO DEADLY REPTILES.

The Kaireit's Bite is Sure Death, and the Cobra's Almost Sure.

Cobra's Almost Sure.

Prom the San Francisco Ezaminer.

A friend of mine in Bengal, in the military service, who was a bachelor, one day invited a friend to dinner with him. The cok house was, as most cook houses are in india, about fifty vards from the house. The friend arrived and they taked. Dinner time came, but no request to come to dinner. Half an hour based and my friend said: "Well. I wonder what's the matter with the beastly cook. He's quite late." They taked on until an hour had pa-sed. Then my friend said: "Well. we'll just go out and see." And what do you think they saw? Why, above the door, with his head swinging from side to side through the transom and seesawing back and forth, was a gigantic cobra. The cooks inside were very much afraid and would not venture out, of course. The guests raised a shotzun and killed the poisonous cobra, though it was hard on the house. They thought themselves lucky, though as may be supposed.

Nobody ever recovers from a bite of the kaireit, and it is rare that anybody ever gets over the bite of the cobra. I never knew of but one case. A dector in the army there had one that he had half tamed as a monstrous curiosity. He was exhibiting it one day to some friends when it bit him on the finger. He was an expert and his remedies were right at hand. He instantly applied them and get over it, but if he had had to walk up stairs even he would have been a dead man. Mind you, he was a dector. From the San Francisco Examiner.

hand. He instantly applied them and got over it, but if he had had to walk up stairs even he would have been a dead man. Mind you, he was a doctor.

One of my editorial associates on the Pioneer, who belonged to the Naturalists' Club in Allahabad, one day brought in a kalireit in a bottle and was exhibiting it to the members. "It is dead," said he, and he thought it was, for it was all broken to pieces. All at once the head began to wriggle and bounce around, it could bite then just as good as it could before. You may guess there was a scampering. That is a peculiarity of these snakes. When you think they are dead they are not. That is another reason why they are so much dreaded.

The cobra of which I have spoken, is, as you may have read, famous for its shility to charm whatever it comes in contact with, but I never dreamed of the powers of the cobra until I went to India. It raises itself about ons-third of its length from the ground, and, distending its great hood, waves itself back and forth. Its hood when open looks as if the snake was cut lengthwise in the breast, a little like an open coat. A side view of it gives a motiled appearance of the shape of an inverted pair of spectacles. It waves itself backward and forward, breathing and blowing in a mysterious way, and the sight is so awful you can't take your eyes off it. Its little eyes gleam like two balls of fire, and when it strikes there is nothing but a blur, it goes so fast.

The cobra in India is the serpent of romance. Despite the fact that it is deadly, the natives he-state to kill it. There are few places where this snake will naturally live that haven't got cobras, the natives are so superstitious about them. They vary in length from four to eight foot. The king cobra socialed, is nothing but a blur, it goes so fast.

The cobra in India is the serpent of romance. Despite the fact that it is deadly, the natives he situe to kill it. There are few places where this snake will naturally live that haven't got in size, the will have a seen many, exerc

the house sewing, when she was disturbed by something turging at the bottom of her dress. She looked down, and there was the snake with the hom of her garment in his mouth, retreating toward the rear of the tent. Mrs. Sawyer tried to shake it off, but was unable to do so, and, becoming alarmed, and tainking the reptile meant harm, she rushed to the rear of the lot, where she supposed her husband to be. He, however, was not there, but, on hearing a cry, she rushed to a pit about twelve feet deep, dug as a depository for sewage. She looked down and saw her little girl there, having fallen in while at play.

ing fallen in while at play.

The little girl was taken out unharmed, and The little girl was taken out unharmed, and now the snake is a greater pet than ever in the family, as both Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer firmly believe that the sagacious reptile had instinct enough to tell them that the little one was in danger, and had taken the means described to notify the child's parents of the accident that had happened to their little one.

Mr. Sawyer is a reliable gentleman. Whether the affair was a coincidence or a wonderful exhibition of snake sense he can't say.

RATE BUILDING FORTS.

How they Fortify Themselves Against the Attacks of Sankes,

From the St. Louis Globe Democrat In many parts of New Mexico and Arizona there grows a peculiar kind of cactus, known as toyo, which from bottom to top is a mass of fluo, sharp theres, To snakes, covotes, and all sorts of varmints' this cactus is a holy terror, for its thorus are easily detached from the plant, and when once in the flush make a poisonus sore. Birds build their nests in a toyo thicket, and there flud saidty from their enemies, which do not dare to attempt the dangers of the toyo for the sake either of egg- or birds. Whether observation of the immunity enloyed by the birds prompted the lats to the intelligent actions of served I cannot say, but cortainly if ever there was a case of clear and consecutive reasoning from cause to effect it was the same the care.

Near the camp where I was located there was a larce hill very much broken, and on one shall a precide per hims twenty feet high. Pass a precide per hims twenty feet high. I have a precide per hims twenty feet high. I have a provided the precipes on the state of the precipes on the state of the precipes on the state of the precipes of the rock. I have a passently state of the precipes of the rock. I have a passently state of the precipes of the rock. I have been and the precipes of the prec against his seales he hurledly retired. And now the rats began to take an interest in the matter, a gray old we eran occasionally showing his whiskers at the hole and swiftly retreating when he caught sight of the threatening-nake. For some time the play went on, but atthough the snake colled himself and apparently endeavored to charm the rats, they refused to listen to the voice of the charmer, though as the impotence of the snake for haim became more apparent they waxed bolder, one or two occasionally even coming out of the hole and squeaking as though in derision, though they dived in again with incredible swit ness whenever the rattler became unusually ferocious.

As darkness was coming on, and I did not care to wait longer. I ended the scene by throwing a large stone at the snake, and, missing it, I regret to say, it was gone before I could descend. So I left the rats to enjoy their well-carned security and went back to camp. Narrating my experience later, I learned that it was a common thing for rats to protect themselves in this way, and that the protection is perfect, for the snakes will never cross even a single line of the toyo thorus, since, when the scales on the lower part of the snake's body are separated in the act of moving forward, the shaip thorus penetrate the tender skin, and give the reptile great annoyance. Indeed, this part of a snake's body seems exquisitely sensitive, for enakes will not cross a hair rope, and plainsmen tell me that there is no better protection of a camp from rattlers than a hair rope laid on the ground in a circle around it, as the snakes will make the circuit of the rope and then move of. Whether this be so or not, few instances of better adaptation of means to end will be found in nature than the rat fortification against the snakes.

# Editor Estill's Bad Rattlesnakes.

Pronule St. Louis Globe Democrat.

"Out of a thousand people bitten by rattlesnakes I do not think a dozen redover." said Ednor J. H. Estill of Savannah. "There is no known cure. In scile of the fact that many people have said that they were cured by whiskey. You may depend on it, that when a man says he was cured of a rattlesnake bite, though not necessarily a har, he is at least laboring under a missupprehension of the facts. There is a small snake similar to the rattlesnake in appearance, whose poison is not so venomous, and negroes bitten by it place lime upon the spot or else drink enough whiskey to counteract the poison. Whiskey, if taken in a large quantity, goes directly into the Bood and counteracts the poison of the snake. But the regular Georgia rattler, from five to seven feet in length, is a deadly customer to meet. It does not give any warning, but strikes the moment it is disturbed, and it can strike an object as far distant as it is long.

"A friend of mine was riding along in the saddle one day when a big rattler lying in the road leaged at him as he passed. It closed to his boot leg, driving one of its fangs clear through the thick leather of his boot and through his trousers, just escaping the flesh. It required considerable kicking to shake that snake off, and when he was finally got rid of he started in pursuit. My friend faced bullets in the army with nonchalance, but his hair stood on end when he saw that snake coming, and he janumed spurs to his nag and didn't stop until he had gone a quarter stretch. My plantation is full of rattlesnakes, and only last week my hands killed twenty-six in a field of twenty acres."

leopards, that are pienty there, living principally on monkeys, and the snakes also catch them when they can, but usually the monkey is gainer in big bands and club them to death. By this time we were so but and tired that we concluded to let the monkeys rest, although we could hear them chattering and jumping not so very far ahead of us, so we turned back to our horses with our coolies carrying our tropby. The Malays made a case very quickly, cutting lengths of lamboo and notching them together, into which they put the snake, and, swingking it on two poles, marched off with it

### She Docun't Mind Moccasin Bites

Prom the Savannah Nems.

Prom the Savannah Nems.

"This is a big one, ain't it?" And a little 14-year-old Wayerosa girl who was helping two negroes to "muddy" a stream Thursday for labing purposes held up the largest and ugliest looking moccasin ever seen in Georgia. The negroes were horrifled to see the restile coil around the little miss's arm and drive its fangs again and again in her hand. The child only laughed. The negroes finally killed the snake, put lard and tobacco on the wounds, and the girl is all right.

### A Wild Alligator in Pennsylvania

From the Philadelphia Press. CHESTER, June 27 .- An alligator from fly CHESTER, June 27.—An alligator from five to six feet in length was seen lying on the bank of Chester Creek, near Seventh street, to-day, and efforts were made to kill the animal. Carpenter John Weaver lived several shots at it as the alligator swam in the water, and as it has not been seen since it is believed to be dead. There was no bathing in Chester creek to-day, though crowds of bays daily swim in the stream. Where the alligator came from is a mystary. a mystery.

# Been Take Possession of a Street Car.

From the Louisville Courter Journal.

The occupants of a street car on the Walnut street line had an uncleasant experience at Nineteenth and Jefferson streets yesterday afternoon about 2 o'clock, when they encounte, ed a swarm of bees.

The insects first lit on the mules, which evinced their displeasure by kicking and attempting to run away with the car. Five or six people were in the car at the time, and they soon vacated it. A servant at the residence of Dr. Cawein, on the corner, threw-ome dust into a tree and the bees settled there. They were finally hived.

From the Intiadephia Inquirer.
A sunburnt Philadelphian who has just A sunburnt Philadelphian who has just got back from a flying trip to the Paris Exhibition amused a party of friends yesterday by telling storles of his visit. He said at Boulogne a fisherman whom he saw had five lines onat in the water. A bell was attached to each line, so that when there was a nibble the bell would ring and the Frenchman would haul in his catch. In the time when none of the bells were ringing this follower of Walton waiked up and down the bank, not the least concerned about the lines. The bells worked like a charm, giving out a low but clear tinkling sound that could be heard a hundred yards away.

### Big Sturgeon and Big Stories. From the Oregonian.

The largest sturgeon ever seen in this part of the country was sent up by Otto Peters of Deer Island to Frank C. Barnes, Saturday. It weighed 550 pounds and was 11 lev4 4 inches long. The largest seen here before this weighed about 300 pounds. The sight of it, displayed on the sidewalk at Third and Morrison streets, attracted a great crowd, among whom were several g. od single-handed fish liars. One told about seeing a surgeon at the Cascades which several g od single-handed fish liars. One teld about seeing a sturgeon at the Cascades which was 14 feet long and weighed 900 pounds. But, as usual, the man who told his story first stood no show, for another fellow came to the front and told about a sturgeon he saw up in the Snake River which was 18 feet long and weighed 1,500 pounds. And then another fellow started in to tell about a sturgeon he saw in Alaska, but the crowd got scared for fear that lightning would strike them and all walked away, and the Alaska liar got left.

## Old Clubfoot, the Grizzly, Killed,

Prom the St. Louis Globe Democrat.

San Francisco, June 24.—The largest grizzly bear ever killed on this coast was shot on Saturday by oid Trapper Hendrix near the source of Battle Creek, in Tehama county. The bear was famous throughout Northern Call ornia as oid "Clubtoot," and was the terror of the Sierras. For twenty years he has seemed to bear a charmed life. Many human beings and hundreds of cattle, sheep, and hogs have failen victims to his appetite. Many parties started out to bag him, but returned without his hide. The beast weighted, when dressed, 2.300 pounds, the largest animal of this species ever seen on the continent. Hendrix feels justly proud of his achievement, and a purse of \$500 has been made up for his benefit by the residents of Eastern Tehama county. The bear was in rather poor condition when slain, as old age had elegged his blood somewhat and time had commenced to paralyze his former supple limbs, so that he was not able to capture his prey. The hunter is tanning the hide, which he proposes to use as a cover for his winter hut in the foot hills. From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer. By a most singular accident a baby lost its life in Kentucky yesterday. John Howard, a farmer, lives about two miles below Ludlow, opp site Ri erside. Yesterday his wife, while engaged in her household duties, sat her 13-month-old child on the floor. The little one began playing with a puppy that happened to be in the room at the time, Fastened around the puppy's neck was a long, light chain that dragged on the floor. The baby and puppy were having a lively time when Mrs. Howard heard a bump. She looked around and saw the little playmates tangled up in a heap, the puppy having pulled the baby over. The mother started to pick the child up, when she was horrifled to find that its face was distorted and its body limp. She also found that during the play the loose end of the chain had in some way become wrapped around the baby's neck, choking it to death in the presence of its mother. Every effort was made to restore respiration, but it was too late. By a most singular accident a baby lost its

About a month ago Curtis McBurrows, an eight-year-old child of William McBurrows, colored, grabbed with his left hand at a fish in a pool which he and others had muddled, near Hawkinsville. As he did so a water moccasin, which had been unseen struck its fants into the fleshy part of his hand, between the thumb and foreinger. The child grabbed the sanks with his right hand and tore it loose, but the snake instantly colled around the left arm and inflicted several bites on it. The child's arm was treated by his parents, who applied to it such remedies as they could think of, but it steadily grew worse. About a week ago they brought him to Hawkinsville to Dr. Taylor, The arm was dreadfully swollen, and the whole bedly seemed to be poisoned. Amoutation was decided to be necessary, and the arm was taken off at the shoulder by Dr. Gus Taylor. The child railied after the operation and bade fair to get well; but inflammation of the bowels set in, and he died Tuesday morning.

# Says He Choked a Bear to Death,

From the Kingston Freeman.

A man named Robert Brown, who resides A man named Robert Brown, who resides near Fox Hollow, is credited with having killed a bear about five miles from Edgeville. A Catskill Mountain hamlet, on Monday afternoon. The animal was no larger than a Newfoundland dog but it was lat and plump. Brown killed the loar, but he says he used neither firearm nor missile of any kind. He choked it to death with his brawny right list.

The animal was feeding on some berries when Brown first espied it. Taking off his coat, the hunter crept steatthily up to within "throwing" distance, when he covered the brate's head and face with the garment. Before bruin could free himself from the unwelcome covering. Brown had gotten close enough to the shaggy brute to get his fingers around its throat. He squeezed mightir, and the bear slowly but surely succumbed to the killing pressure and fell dead at the hunter's feet. The carcass weighed 110 pounds. Bear steaks were distributed around, and "home folks" and a score or more of early Catskill Mountain guests ate bear meat to-day for the first time in their lives.

Brown says he choked a wildcat to death last winter. There are people who doubt his Samsonian story, but, be that as it may, the steaks are a reality.

From the San José Mercury.

The Board of Supervisors of San Benito

coming from Liverpool brought among her passengers three gentlemen who had been in Paris for several weeks endeavoring to patch up an agreement in the broken syndicate controlling the world's copper supply. The news which had come over to the United States about their negotiations with the Rothseilds and the Paris capitalists had not been satisfactory, and when the steamer bringing the representatives of the American interests arrived at her pier on the North River, there were reporters from all over New York, and even from some of the Boston and Philadelphia papers, anxious to interview the three Americans as soon as they could land. One of these men was Mr. J. B. Haggin. He is the largest owner of copper in the United States, and his Anaconda mines out West could probably be

depended upon to furnish the world with all the copper it wants for a number of years to come.

About a fortnight ago there was a sale of ninety-six of the finest yearling horses that lovers of the turf have ever seen in one stable put up at auction. One of the animals brought \$22,000, another sold for \$10,000, and altogether the lot realized for its owner \$113,750. On the whole it was the greatest sale of the kind that has ever occurred in the United States. Mr. Haggin is the man who sold these horses. A few days ago the great Realization race

was run at Sheepshead Bay. It was a grand struggle for the \$40,000 prize and that magnificent horse called Salvator crossed the line It is very likely that this man, who has a

mountain of copper, a ranch miles and miles in area in California, a breeding farm with 300 brood mares, and a stud of the finest stallions to be found in any one man's stable anywhere in the world, could walk up Broadway through the throng on any pleasant afternoon and pass unrecognized by most of the people who would see him. Even racing men to whom his name is familiar would not at all know him by sight. Yet he is really one of the most picturesque characters among the rich men of the country. In figure he is of medium height, with trim. straight legs, supporting a rather stalwart is almost white. He wears a beard and moustache closely cropped and in color like his hair. There is a firm look upon his face, and his eyes are bright and strong in their gaze. He is perhaps 65 years old, but walks with a firm step There is nothing in his manner or his dress that is ostentatious, and, while he might be taken for a prosperous banker, there is nothing about him which would lead one to think that he is a man of wealth that runs far up into the millions, and a man who has so many irons in the fire that his interests extend over almost all the world. Mr. Haggin is a man who will not say very

much about himself. He is courteous, however, and when he says that he does not wish to answer a question the inquirer may always depend upon it that he means what he savs. A story is told that Mr. Haggin is of Irish parentage, and was born in Kentucky. There is another story that he was born in Turkey. However this may be, he is now an American. One of the things that those who say he was born in Turkey tell as a proof is the name given to his son. "Ben Ali." say he was born in Turkey tell as a proof is the name given to his son. "Ben All." It is also related that Mr. Haggin. Sr., ian away when a boy, and passed some of his time in Constantinople, where he was befriended by a Turk, in memory of whose kindness the father gavethe name Ben Ali to his lirst born. Mr. Haggin lived, when a young man, in Kentucky, studied law there, and, about the time there was a great rush for the Pacific coast, went West to make his fortune. He stopped on the way in St. Louis, and with a cousin began the practice of law and the sale of reni estate. They did not need with all the success there that they desired, and with \$500 that was given to his cousin they went on to ban Francisco. While they were busy with their law practice they learned a great deal about mining stocks, and made investments. Fortune was good to them, and they made a not of money. Everything that Mr. Haggin touched seemed to turn into money, and in time he acquired a gold mine at Deadwood, a silver mine at Bodie, in Call onia and other mines in other places. He also became interested in the Wells, Fargo Express Company and the bank which that company runs. The copper mine at Anaconda. Montana, is one of the most valuable of his possessions. It takes \$3,000 men to run it.

But it is probably Mr. Haggin's possessions in California that are of most popular interest. His iarm, the Rancho Del Paso, covers an area of seventy-two square miles, and its borders nearly touch the boundaries of the city of Sacramento, Down in Kern county, in southern California, he owns 400,000 acres of most magnifleent land. It is irigated by a canal 60 feet wide. The liancho Del Paso is where he has his horses, the lirst sale of which last year and the second sale two weeks

by a canal 60 feet wide. The Rancho Del Paso is where he has his horses, the first sale of which last your and the second sale two weeks are have attracted so much attention. Mr. William Easton, the auctioneer who rattled off the horses at liunt's Point, knows about the ranch in California, and although he has been a he seman all his life, and has probably seen morely entitled the life, and young fillies out there is one of activity under circumstances most favorable to the development of aristocratic horses. After the young-tree are weared the colts are put into one field where they can get a straight run of a mile over easy ground, and the fillies are put into another field where they can get a similar steels. He says that in no some of the word are these yoarings pumpered. They may be forced, so far as having rienty of food and plenty of exercise to bromote growth goes, but they are as air from being pampered as is possible. On a sirring in the life of the word are these yoarings pumpered. They may be forced, so far as having rienty of food and plenty of exercise to bromote growth goes, but they are as air from being pampered as is possible. On a first point to the largein ranch may see when, on the signal being given for the horses to come home for the evening locd, the lorty or flity or sixty coits at the furthest end of a field a mile or more long come tearing along at the very top of their speed, the lorty or flity or sixty coits at the furthest end of a field a mile or more long come tearing along at the very top of their speed, the wise horse to the first upon the track, stretches over the ground, every music playing, every footfall strong and except the support of the success of the

The Board of Supervisors of San Benito county have done a wise and timely thing for their section in the passage of an ordinance outlawing the gophers and squirrels which infest the grain fields.

The ordinance provides that any owner or occupant of lands whose lands are free from squirrels or gophers, or who is endeavoring to destroy the same on his own lands, may give notice to the owners or occupants of addoining lands whose lands are free from ganders, and who are not using diligence nor endeavoring to destroy said animals, to immediately commence the destruction thereof. And if the owner or occupant of said lands so intested with the demand within ten days thereof, then the person giving the notice, or his agent or employee, may enter upon the lands so infested for the purpose of destroying the residence of the said squirrels or gophers. And the expense thereof shall be a claim arantast such owner or occupant and a lion mean such land in favor or peaseness or neglecting to comply with said demand of the wine and the which may be onforced in and indicated the said squirrels or gophers. And the expense thereof shall be a claim arantast such owner or occupant and a lion mean such land in favor or peaseness or neglecting to comply with said demand of the prices at fluid so not kept at altery of long Branch as to the plees at the one kept at altery of Long Branch as to the price at the one kept at altery of Long Branch as to the price at the price at